

TIGHTENING OF BLOCKADE OF CENTRAL AND SOUTH CHINA COAST.

Announced Home and Abroad by Commander-in-Chief of
the China Area Fleet, SHIMADA. Evening Edition

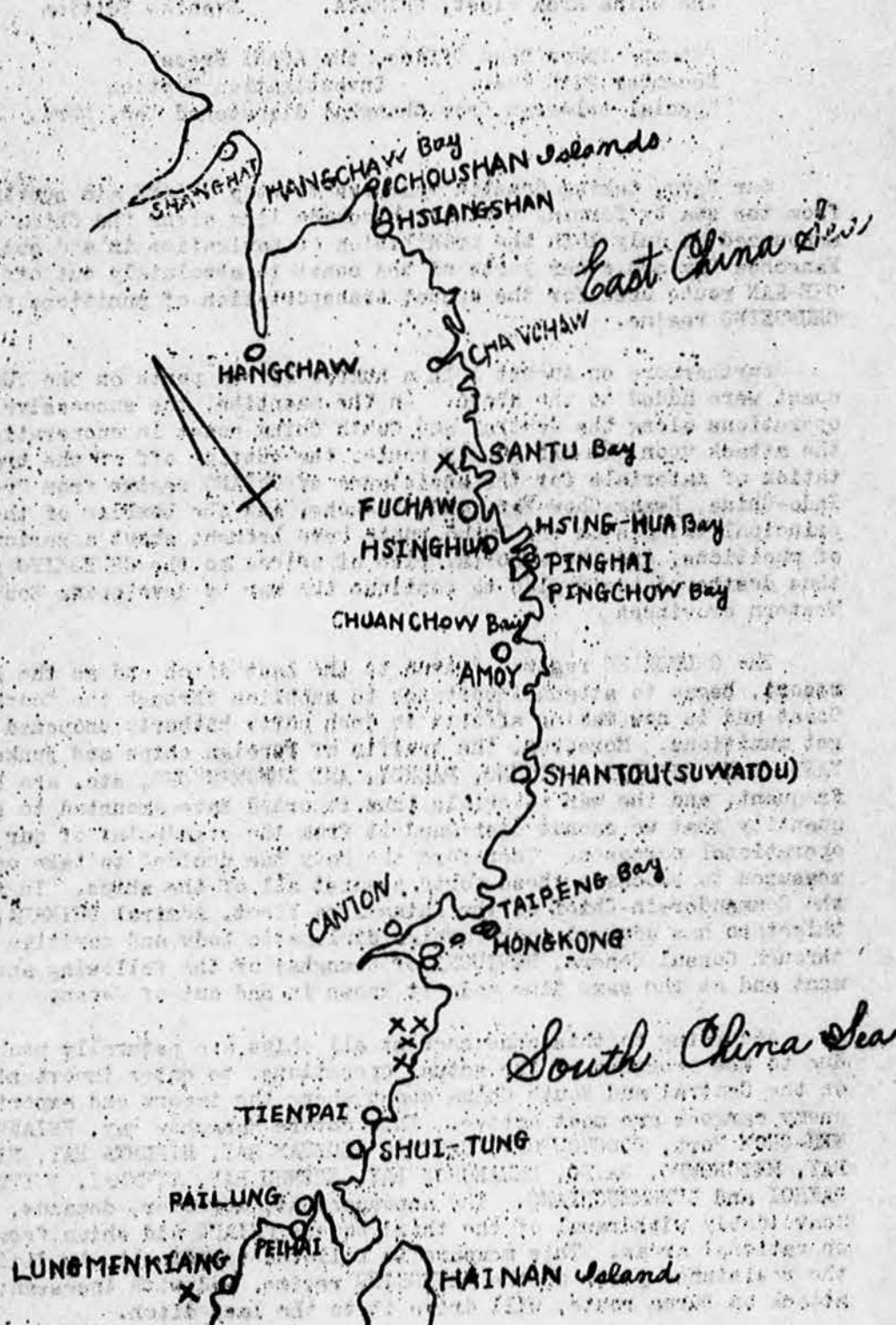
/Stamp/ Tokyo Head Office, the ASAHI Press
December 24th 1940. Investigation Section
Special telegram from Shanghai dispatched Dec. 23rd.

Our Navy, taking drastic measures to stop CHIANG aid supplies from the sea by forming a strong blockade line along the China coast, announced on July 15th the prohibition of navigation in and out of Hangchow Bay and other parts of the coast to absolutely cut off the CHE-KAN route used for the secret transportation of munitions for the CHUNGKING regime.

Furthermore on August 10th a number of sea ports on the FUCHIEN coast were added to the above. In the meantime, the successive naval operations along the Central and South China coast in cooperation with the attack upon CHE-KAN supply route, the cutting off of the transportation of materials for the assistance of CHIANG regime from French Indo-China, Kwang-Chow-Wan, and Hongkong, and the bombing of the principal bridges on the Burma route have brought about a serious lack of munitions, and the abnormal rise of prices to the CHUNGKING side and thus destroyed their plan to continue the war by developing South Western provinces.

The CHUNGKING regime, driven to the last ditch and as the last resort, began to attach importance to supplies through the South China Coast and is now making efforts to open ports hitherto unopened to get munitions. Moreover, the traffic of foreign ships and junks through YANGCHANG TIENPAI, SUITUNG, PAKHOI, AND LUNGMENTKONG, etc. are becoming frequent, and the war materials thus imported have amounted to such a quantity that we cannot disregard it from the standpoint of our operational purposes. Therefore the Navy has decided to take operational measures to blockade these ports against all of the ships. In this regard the Commander-in-Chief of the China Area Fleet, Admiral SHIMADA, Shigetaro has advised each foreign diplomatic body and maritime customs, through Consul General HORIUCHI of Shanghai of the following announcement and at the same time made it known in and out of Japan.

According to this announcement all ships are naturally prohibited, due to the progress of the actual operations, to enter important ports on the Central and South China coast where the import and export of enemy cargoes are most active. This covers Hangchow Bay, HSIANGSHAN-PO, WEN-CHOW Port, FOOCHOWPORT, SANTUAO, LOYUAN BAY, HINCHWA BAY, PINGHOI BAY, MEICHOWPO, SAIPO, CHUANCHOW BAY, SHENHU BAY, TIENPAI, SUITUNG, PAKHOI and LUNGMENTKIANG. The announcement, moreover, demands, unavoidably withdrawal of the third powers CHIANG aid ships from the operational areas. This measure is believed to effectively diminish the resistance power of the CHUNGKING regime, and with incessant attack on Burma route, will drive it to the last ditch.



PROCLAMATION

Due to the necessities of naval operations I proclaim that the following areas shall be added to my authority to prohibit navigation in and out of HANGCHOW BAY, etc. as proclaimed on July 15th 1940. The proclamation concerning these additional areas shall become effective on and after 00.01 hours of December 25th 1940.

THE PARTICULARS

1. Deep Bay, HAILINGSHAN port and the adjacent waters encircled by a line consecutively connecting, western point of TAIACHUEN /T.N.?, the eastern point of NANPENG Isl. and the Southwestern point, SHUANGYUTSOI, of the NANPENG Isl.
2. SUITUNG PORT, TIENPAI PORT and the adjacent waters encircled by a line consecutively connecting HSITECHUEH, TAI-FUNGCHI, and ANCHINSHAN.
3. LUNGWEN Port, PAKHOI Port and the adjacent waters north of the line connecting WANGTOUCHUEH and PAILUNG Cape.

C E R T I F I C A T EStatement of Source and Authenticity

I, SAKAMOTO, Izumi hereby certify that I am officially connected with the ASHAHI SHIMBUN in the following capacity: Chief of the Investigation Section and that as such official I have custody of the document hereto attached consisting of 2 pages, and described as follows: EXCERPTS FROM THE ASAHI SHIMBUN, dated Dec. 24, 1940. I further certify that the attached photostatic document is copied from the original publication which is in the archives and files of the ASHAHI SHIMBUN, TOKYO.

Signed at Tokyo on this

17th day of November, 1947

I Sakamoto
Signature of Official

SPAL

Witness: T. Watanabe

CHIEF OF THE
INVESTIGATION SECTION
Official Capacity

Statement of Official Procurement

I, HENRY SHIMOJIMA, hereby certify that I am associated with the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and that the above certification was obtained by me from the above signed official of the ASHAHI SHIMBUN in the conduct of my official business.

Signed at Tokyo on this

17th day of November, 1947

Henry Shimojima
NAME

Witness: J. F. Munroe

INVESTIGATOR, IPS
Official capacity